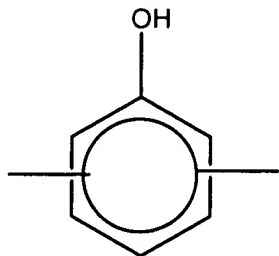


RESPONSE

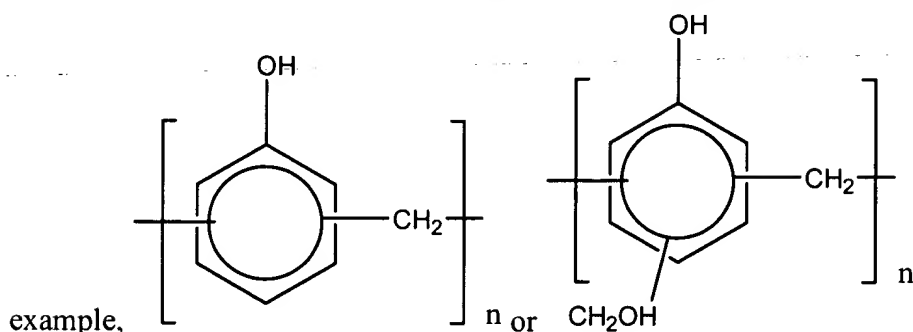
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Claim 1 is a phenolic resin. A phenolic resin is a resin having, in its skeleton, a phenol skeleton

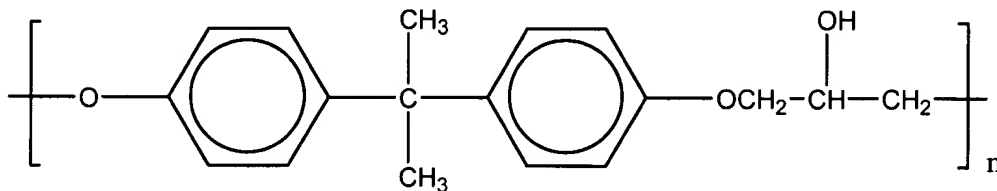


comprising

. Typically, a phenolic resin may have a basic structure of, for



JP '618 does not teach or suggest the claimed phenolic resin. The abstract for JP '618 discloses an epoxy resin composition comprising epoxy resin, a phenoxy resin, a curing agent, and, optionally, a curing accelerator and filler. A phenoxy resin has a basic structure (a terminal (end portion) is an epoxy group) as follows:



In addition, the claimed resin composition is for semiconductor encapsulation, such that electric insulation is required. In contrast, JP '618 is directed to an adhesive material.

Also, the claimed phenolic resin functions as a curing agent for an epoxy resin. In contrast, the phenoxy resin of JP '618 does not function as a curing agent, and in fact, the phenoxy resin of JP '618 has the same function as an epoxy resin.

RESPONSE

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In short, JP '618 does not provide any motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify its disclosure and arrive at the claimed resin composition comprising a phenolic resin. Thus, the claimed resin composition is not rendered obvious by JP '618.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection of Claims 1-4.

Referring to the Examiner's remarks at Section No. 8 (page 4) of the Office Action, the PTO appears to have made an error during the initial scanning of the application as filed. On August 27, 2001, Applicants submitted, *inter alia*:

an English translation of the international application (which did not include Claim 21); and

a substitute English language specification for examination comprising the English translation of the international application into which the PCT Article 11/Article 34 Amendment have been incorporated (which includes Claim 22).

Based on the remarks at Section No. 8 (page 4) of the Office Action, it appears the substitute English language specification for examination comprising the English translation of the international application into which the PCT Article 11/Article 34 Amendment have been incorporated (which includes Claim 22) was never scanned for examination by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants are re-submitting herewith the substitute English language specification for examination comprising the English translation of the international application into which the PCT Article 11/Article 34 Amendment have been incorporated (which includes Claim 22), as well as the date-stamped filing receipt from August 27, 2001.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

RESPONSE

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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23373

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